

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants:

Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination and Meaningful Engagement with Communities

July 12, 2023

Welcome

Housekeeping Notes:

- Mics are automatically muted for all registrants and all cameras should be turned off.
- Please enter all questions in the Q&A tab at the TOP of the screen. Questions will be answered during the Q&A session (*Reserved for Grantees*).
- We encourage you to answer the poll questions which will pop-up periodically throughout the training (*Reserved for Grantees*).
- Slides will be shared after the training.
- A recording will be posted to the website for those who were unable to attend.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this presentation is intended for the sole purpose of providing technical assistance to planning grant recipients under EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program. The presentation describes legally binding requirements that govern the use and management of CPRG resources. This presentation does not substitute for binding requirements, and does not expressly or implicitly create, expand, or limit any legal rights, obligations, responsibilities, expectations, or benefits to any person.

In the event of a conflict between the discussion in this presentation and any legally binding requirement, this presentation document would not be controlling. Specific questions on how this information relates to a particular grantee's deliverables should be directed to that grantee's EPA Project Officer.

Agenda

- Effective Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination
- Meaningful Engagement with Communities
- Resources
- Follow-up Webinar on August 30, 2-3 PM ET
Meaningful Engagement with Communities (Part 2)

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Timeline

- **March 2023:** EPA issued program guidance for **\$250 million** in non-competitive formula grants for developing climate plans
 - Priority Climate Action Plans (PCAP) due in March 2024
 - Comprehensive Climate Action Plans (CCAP) due in mid-2025 (two years from award)
- **Summer 2023:** Grants being awarded to 46 states, DC and Puerto Rico (\$3M), 79 large metro areas (\$1M), 4 territories (\$500K), and more than 75 tribes (variable amounts)
- **September 2023:** Second phase: EPA plans to issue notice of funding opportunity for **\$4.6 billion** competitive implementation grants program
- **March 2024:** Priority Climate Action Plans (PCAP) are due (*Tribal plans due April 2024*)
- **April 2024:** Implementation grant applications anticipated due – to implement measures outlined in PCAPs. Grants may range from \$2M to \$500M over 5 years

Plan Element	Priority Climate Action Plan	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan	Status Report
GHG Inventory	Required	Required	Update Encouraged
GHG Emissions Projections	Not Required	Required	Update Encouraged
GHG Reduction Targets	Not Required	Required	Not Required
Quantified GHG Reduction Measures	Required (priority measures only)	Required (comprehensive)	Status and Updates Required
Benefits Analysis	Encouraged	Required	Required
Low Income/ Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis	Required	Required	Required
Review of Authority to Implement	Required	Required	Update Required
Intersection with Other Funding Availability	Encouraged	Required	Required
Workforce Planning Analysis	Encouraged	Required	Required
Next Steps/Future Budget and Staffing Needs	Not Required	Not Required	Required

CPRG PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM GUIDANCE FOR STATES AND MSAs*

* Guidance for tribes and territories is similar but not the same for all elements.

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination

CPRG Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination

[Poll 1: Add your answer in the chat!](#)

Based on your experience, describe in a few words an important aspect of how your organization has effectively coordinated with other agencies or governments.

CPRG Requirements: Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination

- **Lead organizations for states and MSAs** are required to collaborate with air pollution control agencies, municipalities, and tribes **within their jurisdiction** in developing the PCAP.
- The PCAP should **include priority measures** that can be implemented by other collaborating entities. This is important for implementation grant phase.
- Lead organizations should also coordinate with other appropriate agencies and offices **within their own government** in developing planning deliverables, such as...
 - Agencies for environmental protection, energy, utilities, transportation, housing, waste management, and land use planning
- A **tribal partnership or consortium** should develop its PCAP in close coordination with the member tribes.
- **ALL GRANTEES: Share draft and final versions of PCAP as early as possible to enable other entities to develop effective implementation grant applications!**

State and MSA Collaboration with Municipalities and Tribes

- State and MSA lead organizations are encouraged to use multiple strategies to increase the number and diversity of communities that participate in the planning process.
- There are multiple approaches lead organizations may take in collaborating with municipalities and tribes, including:
 - Establish an interagency work group to help identify priority GHG reduction measures in multiple sectors
 - Establish a group of interested parties (government, private sector, public interest, academia, etc.) and hold regular meetings;
 - Establish a listserv, website, and other methods for communicating to interested parties about the project
 - Publish a Request for Information to elicit input from municipalities and tribes on GHG reduction priorities
 - Offer government to government consultation opportunity to Federally Recognized Tribes
 - Provide sub-awards to support municipal and tribal planning (either directly or to a 3rd party);
 - Conduct analysis or modeling to identify promising GHG reduction measures;
 - Provide data and analyses to municipal and tribal governments.

Collaboration Strategies for Municipalities and Tribes That are not Lead Organizations

- Reach out to state and MSA contacts to learn more about how lead organizations intend to conduct their coordination/collaboration process for PCAP development
 - Ultimately, the lead organization is responsible for the final list of GHG reduction measures that are included in the PCAP; other municipalities and tribes can inform what measures get priority.
- Monitor websites or newsletters for announcements about coordination, training, or capacity-building opportunities
- Collaborate with neighboring communities, municipal groups, tribal partnerships, or tribal consortia to identify potential shared priority GHG reduction measure opportunities and best practices that can inform state and MSA plans
- Share existing climate, energy, or sustainability plans, programs, and policies with the state and MSA lead organizations

Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination

Results from Poll 1

Based on your experience, describe in a few words an important aspect of how your organization has effectively coordinated with other agencies or governments.

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

Meaningful Engagement with Communities

CPRG Meaningful Engagement with Communities

Poll 2

In a word or short phrase, describe what meaningful engagement means for your community or organization.

CPRG Requirements: Public Engagement

- State and Metropolitan Area Requirements

- **PCAP:** Involve LIDAC and other interested parties in the PCAP development process through **meaningful engagement** and **inclusion of community priorities**
- **CCAP:** Engage **early, frequently, and purposefully** with LIDAC communities throughout the CCAP development process and **seek conscious input** around key decisions and overall progress
- **Status Report:** Communicate with LIDAC and other interested parties to **identify next steps and funding opportunities**

- Tribe/Territory Requirements

- **PCAP:** Involve interested parties and the public in the PCAP development process
- **CCAP:** Identify and engage with affected communities while developing the CCAP and **provide education and information sharing** around key decisions and overall progress

Potential interested parties for tribes and territories include the tribal community itself, other nearby community groups, governmental entities, Port Authorities, labor organizations, and applicable private sector and industry representatives.

Three Phases for Effective Community Engagement

- An **assessment phase**, where the grantee clarifies its own goals and identifies partners, interested parties, their interests and resources.
- A **design phase**, where the grantee works with interested parties and partners to plan the engagement process.
- An **engagement phase**, where the grantee (working with others as appropriate) implements its engagement plan.

Meaningful Engagement – Best Practices

- Build upon existing outreach and engagement practices
- **Identify concerns of the community & potential solutions**
- Establish and maintain (for all community partners involved/potentially affected) positive relationships
- Manage and resolve conflict throughout the engagement process
- **Create a community engagement plan**
- Build momentum for implementing the community engagement plan
- Gather feedback to evaluate the effectiveness of the community engagement plan
- **Drive the process to maintain ongoing engagement**

Identify Concerns of the Community & Potential Solutions

- Identify and convene a broad selection of community partners to ensure diversity in perspectives.
- Consult with members of the community to identify and prioritize community-specific concerns, aspirations, and any shared goals.
- Consult with community representatives in advance about what information they most want to hear and what communications approach is likely to be most well-received.
- Consider what entities will be essential in the decision-making process to enact change and when a baseline should be set to measure progress.
- Empower people to work together to accomplish the identified goals by meeting people where they are and respecting their viewpoints.
- Ensure there is a shared understanding of the issues by assessing where there may be knowledge gaps.

Create a Community Engagement Plan

- Develop a plan, with community involvement, that lays out the goals, challenges, potential solutions, methods to measure progress, and manners for continued engagement.
 - Identify relevant community members (those with interest or influence, and those who will be affected), and what they care about or bring to the table.
 - Develop a strategy to understand, engage, and evaluate the full landscape of community interests and resources.
- Consider the potential need for facilitation support.
 - An outside facilitator could be helpful for a number of reasons, such as experience with difficult conversations or strained relationships among participants
- Process: What are the priority issues? What questions, formats and ground rules will help achieve objectives? What are relevant logistics (time, place, set-up)? Have we prepared relevant information? Have we addressed potential issues like language barriers or internet access?
- *Implementation Tip:* It can be extremely valuable to involve community members in the development of the engagement plan, or in other words to co-design the engagement process. By consulting with the community early in the process, you can develop a meeting or series of meetings that better serves both their and your needs.

Drive the Process to Maintain Ongoing Engagement

- Develop a cadence for welcoming community feedback throughout and beyond the life of the project, providing milestone updates, and creating opportunities for continued engagement on reporting.
- Clarify the message: What is essential to communicate?
- Consider the range of likely audience members, their backgrounds, their familiarity with the issues, and how they can best receive information. Consider how to target different elements of communication to different audience member types.
- Consider use of different media/approaches, including images, maps, audio, video, handouts, physical objects and narratives/stories.
- Take care not to hide or gloss over negative information that might be sensitive or difficult to convey.
- Be willing to admit mistakes, explain why it was wrong or misguided, and address what will be done differently moving forward.

Resources

Online Guidance

- State planning: Energy and Environment, A Guide to Action
 - <https://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/energy-and-environment-guide-action>
- Local planning: The Local Action Framework: A Guide to Help Communities Achieve Energy and Environmental Goals
 - <https://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/local-action-framework-0>
- Public Participation Guide: Tools
 - <https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/public-participation-guide-tools>
- Public Involvement Policy*
 - <https://archive.epa.gov/publicinvolvement/web/pdf/policy2003.pdf>
**Currently under revision*
- International Association for Public Participation
 - <https://www.iap2.org/mpage/Home>
 - IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation
 - https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/pillars/Spectrum_8.5x11_Print.pdf

Follow up Webinar on August 30, 2-3 PM ET: Meaningful Engagement - Update and Technical Resources

- Provide Additional Resources
- Address Follow-up Questions
- Provide examples of Effective Community Engagement
- Identify Opportunities for Additional Support

Upcoming Trainings

- **July 19, 2-3:30 PM ET:** Co-Pollutant Inventory and Future Projections Benefits Analysis
- **July 26, 2-3 PM ET:** Quantified GHG Reduction Measures
- **July 27, 2-3 PM ET:** Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) for CPRG Planning Grantees
- **Aug 2, 2-3:30 PM ET:** EPA Tools used for Evaluation and Quantification of GHG Reduction Measures
- **Week of Aug 7:** EPA Climate Action Funding Fair with USDA, DOE, HUD, DOI, DOT, and Treasury on IRA and other funding opportunities (five sessions on each of the key CPRG sectors and one session on tribal programs, each 90-120 minutes)
- **Aug 9, 2-3 PM ET:** Workforce Planning Analysis
- **Aug 16, 2-3 PM ET:** Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities (LIDAC) Benefits Analysis
- **Aug 30, 2-3 PM ET:** Meaningful Engagement - Update and Technical Resources

CPRG Technical Assistance Forums (TAFs)

- Opportunity for peer-to-peer technical assistance, collaboration, and mentoring.
- Sharing of case studies, best practices, and lessons learned
- Forums will focus on key plan elements (e.g., emission inventories, best practices for collaboration, key sectors for GHG reductions, benefits to low income and disadvantaged communities, etc.)
- Facilitated and led by EPA subject matter experts and contractors
- Will be launched late summer/early fall via Microsoft Teams platform

Appendix

CPRG Requirements (States/MSAs) – Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination

Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) Due: March 1, 2024	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP); Due: 2 years from award (summer-fall 2025)	Status Report Due: 4 years from award (2027)
<p>Collaborate with coordinating entities, other appropriate agencies and offices within their own government and at various levels of government in the development and adoption of the PCAP. Utilize and engage with existing partnerships, create and expand interagency working groups, create a shared electronic repository for background material and working drafts, and a meeting schedule. States must coordinate with sub-state entities (e.g., municipalities, air pollution control agencies, regional planning organizations, etc.) and tribal nations during the development process as well as how these entities will be provided with the final PCAP in a timely manner for purposes of those entities applying for an implementation grant under the CPRG program.</p>	<p>Collaborate with coordinating entities, other appropriate agencies and offices within their own government, and at various levels of government, in the development and adoption of the CCAP. Utilize and engage with existing partnerships, create and expand interagency working groups, create a shared electronic repository for background material and working drafts, and a meeting schedule.</p>	<p>Collaborate with coordinating entities, other appropriate agencies and offices within their own government, and at various levels of government, in the development of the Status Report.</p>

CPRG Requirements (Tribes/Territories) – Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination

Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) Due: April 1, 2024	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) Due: 4 years from award (summer-fall 2027)
Collaborate with coordinating entities and other appropriate agencies and offices within their own government in the development and adoption of the PCAP. Utilize and engage with existing partnerships, create and expand interagency working groups, create a shared electronic repository for background material and working drafts, and a meeting schedule.	Collaborate with coordinating entities and other appropriate agencies and offices within their own government in the development and adoption of the CCAP. Utilize and engage with existing partnerships, create and expand interagency working groups, create a shared electronic repository for background material and working drafts, and a meeting schedule.

Tribe and Territory Requirements

- **Lead organizations should coordinate with other appropriate agencies and offices within their own government in the development and adoption of the planning deliverables**
 - *Ex. climate planning efforts should involve agencies with responsibilities in different program areas, including environmental protection, energy, utilities, transportation, housing, waste management, and land use planning.*
- **Climate plans for tribes represented by a tribal partnership or tribal consortium should be developed in close coordination with the member tribes**

CPRG Requirements (States/MSAs) – Public Engagement

Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) Due: March 1, 2024	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) Due: 2 years from award (summer-fall 2025)	Status Report Due: 4 years from award (2027)
<p>Involve interested parties and the public in the PCAP development process. Identify low-income and disadvantaged communities consistent with federal government guidance, conducting meaningful engagement with those communities, and identifying and including those communities' priorities.</p>	<p>Conduct meaningful engagement with affected communities in the development of the CCAP, especially with low income and disadvantaged communities. Identify interested and/or affected groups (especially low-income and disadvantaged communities, consistent with federal government guidance), seek continuous input, and methods of communicating key decisions and overall progress, providing education, and sharing information with interested parties both during and following CCAP development. Engage early and frequently with low-income and disadvantaged communities to inform the required elements of the CCAP, especially the low-income and disadvantaged communities benefits analysis.</p>	<p>Engage with interested parties, including the public and disadvantaged communities to identify next steps and funding opportunities. Inform interested parties about the status of the PCAP and CCAP elements and the plan to continue engagement beyond the grant period.</p>

Potential interested parties include urban, rural, and underserved or disadvantaged communities as well as the general public, governmental entities, federally recognized tribes, Port Authorities, labor organizations, community and faith-based organizations, and private sector and industry representatives

CPRG Requirements (Tribes/Territories) – Public Engagement

Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) Due: March 1, 2024	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) Due: 4 years from award (summer-fall 2027)
Involve interested parties and the public in the PCAP development process	Conduct meaningful engagement with affected communities in the development of the CCAP. Identify interested and/or affected groups, seek continuous input, and methods of communicating key decisions and overall progress, providing education, and sharing information with interested parties both during and following CCAP development.

- **Potential interested parties include the tribal community itself as well as other nearby community groups, governmental entities, Port Authorities, labor organizations, private sector and industry representatives as applicable.**
- **Describe how public engagement would be conducted**
 - *Such as through a combination of in-person and/or virtual meetings with reasonable opportunities to provide input on preliminary products*
- **Discuss how information on the PCAP and CCAP development processes will be made available to the public in a transparent manner**
 - *Such as through in-person and virtual meetings, public websites, listservs, and social media.*